



***Substitute Senate Bill No. 959***

***Special Act No. 17-20***

***AN ACT CONCERNING AN INVENTORY OF THE STATE'S  
BIOSCIENCE EDUCATION PIPELINE.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) (a) The chairpersons of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to commerce shall appoint and convene a working group to conduct an inventory of the educational resources available at public and private institutions of higher education in the state to prepare students for careers in the bioscience field and make legislative recommendations to improve and increase the availability of such resources.

(b) Appointments to the working group shall include, but need not be limited to, representatives from the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to commerce, the Department of Economic and Community Development, Connecticut Innovations, Incorporated, the Board of Regents for Higher Education, the regional community-technical college system, The University of Connecticut, a private institution of higher education, and a bioscience industry association. All appointments to the working group shall be made not later than thirty days after the effective date of this section.

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(c) The chairpersons of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to commerce shall select the chairperson of the working group. The chairperson of the working group shall schedule the first meeting of the working group, which shall be held not later than sixty days after the effective date of this section.

(d) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 2-15 of the general statutes or any other provision of the general statutes, no member of the working group shall receive mileage reimbursement or a transportation allowance for traveling to a meeting of the working group.

(e) Not later than January 15, 2018, the working group shall submit a report on the inventory and recommendations pursuant to subsection (a) of this section to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to commerce and higher education, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes. The working group shall terminate on the date that it submits such report or January 15, 2018, whichever is later.

Approved July 10, 2017